

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01327 200805Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /045 W  
-----200811Z 098269 /15  
R 200745Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2710  
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 1327

USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, CZ  
SUBJECT: CZECH MAGAZINE ATTACKS USIA, VOA

1. MAY 2 EDITION OF CZECHOSLOVAK VARIETY MAGAZINE "SIGNAL"  
CARRIED TWO-PAGE ARTICLE ATTACKING USIA, VOA, AND TO LESSER  
EXTENT RFE AND RL.

2. ENTITLED "INSTRUMENTS OF DISRUPTION AND WARS," THE ARTICLE  
DRAWS ON A NUMBER OF PUBLISHED SOURCES AND AUTHOR'S IMAGINATION  
TO SUPERFICIALLY TRACE THE HISTORY OF USIA AND VOA IN AN  
EFFORT TO DISCREDIT THEM BY PORTRAYING THEM AS INVOLVED IN  
ACTIVITIES THAT SEEMINGLY CONTRADICT THEIR PUBLICLY STATED  
MISSIONS. AFTER QUOTING PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND FORMER ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY OF STATE EDWARD BARRET ON COLD WAR GOALS OF U.S.  
PROPAGANDA, AND TED SORENSON ON PROPAGANDA TECHNIQUES, ARTICLE  
FOCUSES ON ROLE OF USIA AND VOA IN 1965 DOMINICAN CRISI  
AND VIETNAM WAR. IN CASE OF FORMER, IT ATTEMPTS TO SHOW CLOSE  
WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARMY PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE  
TEAMS AND USIA ACTIVITIES UNDER DIRECTION OF HEWSON RYAN.

3. PORTION DEALING WITH VIETNAM GOES INTO SOMEWHAT MORE  
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DETAIL STARTING WITH 1965 ROWAN VISIT TO VIETNAM. BESIDES  
GIVING VARIOUS BUDGETARY FIGURES AND STAFFING LEVELS, THE  
ARTICLE IDENTIFIES BARRY ZORTHIAN AS FORMER VOICE OF AMERICA  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR, AND IMPLIES CONNECTION BETWEEN USIA BOOK  
PUBLISHING PROGRAM AND CIA-SUPPORTED PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES.  
IT ALSO CLAIMS ZORTHIAN STAFF "DIRECTED ACTIVITIES OF  
TERRORIST GROUPS OF THE GREEN BERETS."

4. ARTICLE ENDS WITH REFERENCE TO ADMINISTRATION'S RECENT  
PROPOSAL TO INCREASE NUMBER OF RADIO TRANSMITTERS IN EUROPE  
AND EXPRESSED HOPE USIA AND VOA WILL LIVE UP TO THEIR STATED  
MISSIONS AND TO THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE.  
BYRNE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PROPAGANDA, MAGAZINES, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING, ALLEGATIONS, RADIO STATIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PROP, CZ, US, USIA, VOA, RFE, RL  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009